

**Amendments to the Claims**Listing of claims:

1. (Original) A method of assembling a layer of vapor, water and ice resistant material onto a sheathing panel to form an ice dam for use in roof construction before the sheathing panel is secured onto roof rafters, the vapor, water and ice resistant material having on one side thereof an adhesive surface covered with a plastic film, comprising the steps of:

positioning a face of the sheathing panel in a generally horizontal plane for accessibility in a controlled atmosphere;

removing the plastic film from the vapor, water and ice layer, thereby exposing the adhesive surface of the vapor, water and ice layer;

positioning a corner of the vapor, water and ice layer at a corner of the sheathing panel and aligning their longitudinal edges; and

pressing the adhesive surface of the vapor, and water and ice layer to the face of the sheathing panel to form an assembly,

thereby forming the ice dam for use in roof construction.

2. (Original) The method of assembling a layer of vapor, water and ice resistant material onto a sheathing panel to form an ice dam for use in roof construction before the sheathing panel is secured onto roof rafters, the vapor, water and ice resistant material having on one side thereof an adhesive surface covered with a plastic film, further comprising the step of subsequently installing the ice dam on roof rafters with the longitudinal edges at the outermost portion of an eave.

3. (Original) The method of assembling a layer of vapor, water and ice resistant material onto a sheathing panel to form an ice dam for use in roof construction before the sheathing panel is secured onto roof rafters, the vapor, water and ice resistant material having on one side thereof an adhesive surface covered with a plastic film, further comprising the step of installing adjacent panels with abutted ends and applying a strip of said layer of vapor, water and ice resistant material over a seam at the abutted ends.

4. (Original) A method of assembling a layer of vapor, water and ice resistant material onto a sheathing panel to form an ice dam for use in roof construction before the sheathing panel is secured onto roof rafters, the vapor, water and ice resistant material, comprising the steps of:

positioning a face of the sheathing panel in a generally horizontal plane for accessibility in a controlled atmosphere;

applying adhesive materials to the face of the sheathing panel;

positioning a corner of the vapor, water and ice layer at a corner of the sheathing panel and aligning their longitudinal edges; and

placing the vapor, water and ice layer onto the adhesive materials on the face of the sheathing panel to form an assembly, thereby forming the ice dam for use in roof construction.

5. (Original) The method of assembling a layer of vapor, water and ice resistant material onto a sheathing panel to form an ice dam for use in roof construction before the sheathing panel is secured onto roof rafters, the vapor, water and ice resistant material having on one side thereof an adhesive surface covered with a plastic film, further comprising the step of subsequently installing the ice dam on roof rafters with the longitudinal edges at the outermost portion of an eave.

6. (Original) The method of assembling a layer of vapor, water and ice resistant material onto a sheathing panel to form an ice dam for use in roof construction before the sheathing panel is secured onto roof rafters, the vapor, water and ice resistant material having on one side thereof an adhesive surface covered with a plastic film, further comprising the step of installing adjacent panels with abutted ends and applying a strip of said layer of vapor, water and ice resistant material over a seam at the abutted ends.

7. (Original) A method of applying a layer of vapor, water and ice resistant material onto a sheathing panel to form an ice dam for use in roof construction before the sheathing panel is secured onto roof rafters, comprising the steps of:

positioning a face of the sheathing panel in a generally horizontal plane for accessibility in a controlled atmosphere; and

spraying the sheathing panel with the vapor, water and ice resistant material to form an assembly, thereby forming the ice dam for use in roof construction.

8. (Original) A method of applying a layer of vapor, water and ice resistant material contained in a dip tank onto a sheathing panel to form an ice dam for use in roof construction before the sheathing panel is secured onto roof rafters, comprising the steps of:

positioning the sheathing panel in a generally vertical plane; and

dipping the sheathing panel into the dip tank containing the vapor, water and ice resistant material in a liquid state to form an assembly, thereby forming the ice dam for use in roof construction

9. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters, comprising:

a sheathing panel for assembling on the roof rafters having a first face and a second face;

a vapor, water and ice resistant layer having a first side and a second side, the second side having a plastic film covering an adhesive backing;

means for removing the plastic film to expose the adhesive backing; and

means for assembling the vapor, water and ice resistant layer to the sheathing panel, wherein the second side of the vapor, water and ice resistant layer having the adhesive backing is placed onto the first face of sheathing panel before assembly of the sheathing panel to the roof rafters forming an assembly.

10. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters according to claim 9, further including means for positioning a corner of the vapor, water and ice resistant layer at a corner of the sheathing panel and aligning their longitudinal edges.

11. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters according to claim 9, wherein the vapor, water and ice resistant layer completely covers the first face of the sheathing panel.

12. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters according to claim 9, wherein the vapor, water and ice resistant layer covers approximately three-fourths of the first face of the sheathing panel.

13. (Original) The article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters according to claim 9, further comprising seam tape attached to the assembly for sealing an area between a second abutting assembly.

14. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters, comprising:

a sheathing panel for assembling on the roof rafters having a first face; the first face having a plastic film covering an adhesive backing;

means for removing the plastic film to expose the adhesive backing; and

means for assembling the vapor, water and ice resistant layer to the sheathing panel, wherein the vapor, water and ice resistant layer is placed onto the first face of the sheathing panel having the adhesive backing before assembly of the sheathing panel to the roof rafters forming an assembly.

15. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters according to claim 14, further including means for positioning a corner of the vapor, water and ice resistant layer at a corner of the sheathing panel and aligning their longitudinal edges.

16. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters according to claim 14, wherein the vapor, water and ice resistant layer completely covers the first face of the sheathing panel.

17. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters according to claim 14, wherein the vapor, water and ice resistant layer covers approximately three-fourths of the first face of the sheathing panel.

18. (Original) The article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters according to claim 13, further comprising seam tape attached to the assembly for sealing an area between a second abutting assembly.

19. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters, comprising:

a sheathing panel for assembling on the rafters of the roof having a first face;  
a vapor, water and ice resistant layer having a first side;

means for placing an adhesive material between the first face of the sheathing panel and the first side of the vapor, water and ice resistant layer; and

means for assembling the first face of the sheathing panel and the first side of the vapor, water and ice resistant layer together, thereby sandwiching the adhesive material before assembly of the sheathing panel to the rafters of the roof forming an assembly.

20. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters according to claim 19, further including means for positioning a corner of the vapor, water and ice resistant layer at a corner of the sheathing panel and aligning their longitudinal edges.

21. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters according to claim 19, wherein the vapor, water and ice resistant layer completely covers the first face of the sheathing panel.

22. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters according to claim 19, wherein the vapor, water and ice resistant layer covers approximately three-fourths of the first face of the sheathing panel.

23. (Original) The article of manufacture for reducing water and ice damage on a roof, wherein the article of manufacture is assembled prior to assembly to roof rafters according to claim 19, further comprising seam tape attached to the assembly for sealing an area between a second abutting assembly.